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MAY 16, 2006  
Date of Deposit

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Art Unit: 1614

VICTOR SLOAN

Examiner: Graffeo, Michel

APPLICATION NO: 10/531,676

FILED: APRIL 15, 2005

FOR: METHOD OF ADMINISTERING BISPHOSPHONATES

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

The Office Action of November 17, 2005 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on February 17, 2006. A three-month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis in the amount of \$1020 for payment of the extension fee. An additional copy of this paper is here enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis.

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Novartis  
Corporate Intellectual Property  
One Health Plaza, Building 104  
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Date: MAY 16, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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